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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE .

In re Application of Jerrold Franklin <i>et al.</i>)	Date: June 16, 2004
Application No. 10/068,154)	Group Art Unit: 1745
Filed: February 6, 2002)	Examiner: Gregg Cantelmo
For: Compliant Contacts for Fuel Cell Use)	Attorney Ref. No.: 109.06

Response to Office Action

Commissioner of Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to the office action dated April 12, 2004, the applicants offer the following remarks.

Remarks

The April 12th office action relies primarily on the Fuglevand patent (US Pat. No. 6,468,682), but Fuglevand lacks several key elements of the present invention:

- Fuglevand's "support member" 20 is simply not a bipolar separator plate (applicable to all claims);
- Fuglevand's "contacts" 70 are not attached to the supposed bipolar separator plate 20 (applicable to all claims);
- Fuglevand does not disclose a fuel cell stack (applicable to claims 2, 19); and
- Fuglevand does not disclose a stack in which the electrical contacts of a first assembly are in contact with the membrane electrode assembly (MEA) of a second assembly (applicable to claims 2, 19).

Because of these differences between Fuglevand and the present application, all claims are now allowable. The applicant will address each of these points in detail below.